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Walensky Warns Public to Beware of 'Misinformation' and 'Politicized Science'

Dr. Rochelle Walensky told The Wall Street Journal she hopes Americans will make health decisions based on "their own risk assessment and their own personal risks, but not through politics," emphasizing that public health recommendations also shouldn't be politicized.

By **Brenda Baletti, Ph.D.**

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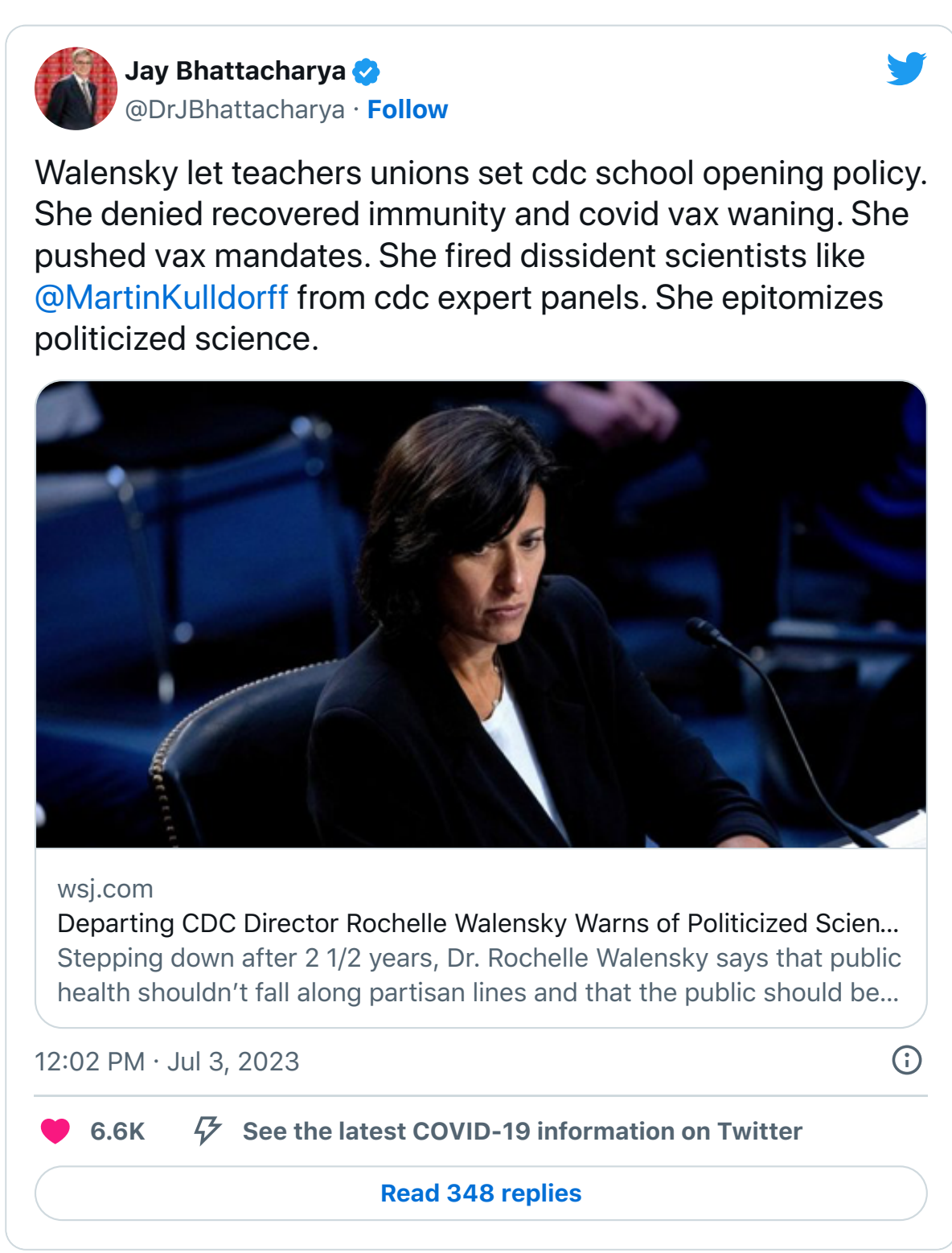
As she ended her tenure last week as director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr. Rochelle Walensky warned the American public to be on guard against "misinformation" and the "politicization of science."

Walensky told The Wall Street Journal she hopes Americans will make health decisions based on "their own risk assessment and their own personal risks, but not through politics," emphasizing that public health recommendations also shouldn't be politicized.

"Ironically, this comes after two-and-a-half years of Walensky misinforming the public and politicising the science," investigative journalist Maryanne Demasi, Ph.D., wrote on her Substack.

Demasi and many others took to Twitter to remind people of Walensky's false statements and politicized decision-making.



Jay Bhattacharya
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Walensky let teachers unions set cdc school opening policy. She denied recovered immunity and covid vax waning. She pushed vax mandates. She fired dissident scientists like @MartinKulldorff from cdc expert panels. She epitomizes politicized science.

wsj.com
Departing CDC Director Rochelle Walensky Warns of Politicized Scien…
Stepping down after 2 1/2 years, Dr. Rochelle Walensky says that public health shouldn't fall along partisan lines and that the public should be…

12:02 PM · Jul 3, 2023

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Walensky last week published a farewell op-ed in The New York Times, in which she wrote that public health is critically important in the U.S., and yet she "fear[s] the despair from the pandemic is fading too quickly from our memories."

She complained that "the agency [CDC] has been sidelined, chastened by early missteps with Covid and battered by persistent scrutiny."

She also told the WSJ that public health shouldn't fall along partisan lines.

Yet stark political partisanship defined her time at the CDC. The WSJ reported that a recent KFF poll showed political affiliation was the strongest demographic predictor of COVID-19 vaccination. And about one-quarter of Americans don't trust the CDC's health recommendations, according to a 2022 survey published in the journal Health Affairs.

Walensky acknowledged "missteps in communicating" by the CDC, which, she said, "could have done a better job" making it clear to the public that the agency's message could change during the pandemic.

But, she told the WSJ, the CDC has a plan to regain public trust in the future — by working directly with media organizations to discuss how to best shape public opinion prior to releasing scientific information to the public.

She said the CDC plans to use a method called "prebunking," where they will communicate directly with media organizations before they release information to let the media know which details about public health might be "misconstrued."

According to The Associated Press (AP) "prebunking" by public health agencies allows the agencies to define something as "misinformation" before readers have an opportunity to encounter it elsewhere as possibly true.

Then search engines such as Google prioritize "credible websites" like the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) or the CDC's in its searches.

FDA Commissioner Robert Califf, the Virality Project and Google are among those who have promoted prebunking as a way to combat misinformation.

Journalist Kim Iversen proposed a different approach Walensky might take to restoring public trust in the CDC.

She said:

> "Well, the way to do it is to apologize, to own up to your lies, to own up to the mistakes that you made and to discuss why you did that, why the agency followed such political partisanship when they should have been following science, why they ignored the science that was right in front of them."

CDC broadcast a long list of 'misinformation' during Walensky's tenure

Throughout her tenure at the CDC, which began when Biden took office in January 2021, Walensky made a series of public statements that have proven to be false.

Evidence has since emerged that Walensky knew many of these statements were false when she made them.

In March 2021, Walensky famously told Rachel Maddow, that "vaccinated people do not carry the virus, don't get sick."

The CDC was forced to walk back her statements a few days later. But that message was the basis for vaccine mandates imposed later that year by the Biden administration, businesses, universities and public venues throughout the country.

In a mid-June congressional hearing, Walensky defended her March statements, claiming they were true at the time.

But the Washington Examiner reported on June 20 that emails obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request showed Walensky and Dr. Francis Collins were aware of and discussed "breakthrough cases" of COVID-19 in January 2021 — just before the vaccines became widely available — and yet continued to tell the public the vaccines would prevent transmission.

In that same congressional testimony, Walensky also defended the mask mandates, saying that the summary of Cochrane's review — which found wearing masks in the community "probably makes little to no difference" in preventing viral transmission — had been "retracted."

But it was neither retracted nor had the authors of the review changed the language in the summary, Demasi reported.

In June 2021, Walensky told "Good Morning America" that the risk of myocarditis was extremely rare, and there was overwhelming data the vaccines were safe for children — even after hundreds of cases of myocarditis had been reported and the CDC had been aware of a safety signal since February.

Under Walensky, the CDC also gave false information on vaccine safety monitoring, added the COVID-19 vaccines to the childhood vaccine schedule despite known harms, withheld data on boosters from the agency's own advisers and told pregnant women the vaccine was safe — just days after Pfizer reportedly finalized a report demonstrating it wasn't.

In a March study by Krohnert and others, researchers compiled instances of errors in data presented by the CDC during the COVID-19 pandemic in publications, press releases, interviews and Twitter. The authors reported 25 instances where the agency under Walensky promoted demonstrably false numbers.

In most (80%) cases, the CDC exaggerated the severity of the pandemic. For example, Walensky gave a briefing on June 23, 2022, during which she claimed COVID-19 was a "top 5 cause of death" in children, which was untrue.

Most recently, the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic gave Walensky until July 12 to turn over phone records involving American Federation of Teachers (AFT) President Randi Weingarten. The House is investigating potential political interference on the part of AFT with the CDC's school reopening recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic, The Defender reported.

Walensky warns of 'future threats'

Walensky warned at the end of her Times op-ed:

> "I want to remind America: The question is not if there will be another public health threat, but when. The C.D.C. needs public and congressional support if it is going to be prepared to protect you from future threats."

To take on these "future threats" the Biden administration nominated Dr. Mandy Cohen, an internal medicine physician and former state health secretary of North Carolina, to replace Walensky.

But critics warn Cohen is "a public health COVID authoritarian" who is "fully entrenched in the 'bio-pharmaceutical complex.'"

Dr. Peter McCullough told The Defender that during the COVID-19 pandemic, Cohen failed to recognize therapeutics and natural immunity, and supported lockdowns, vaccine mandates and masking.

Cohen comes to the CDC from the private sector, where she is executive vice president of Aledade and CEO of Aledade Care Solutions, whose executive leadership and board of directors includes people with connections to the World Economic Forum and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Walensky congratulated Cohen on her nomination, describing her as "a respected public health leader who helped North Carolina successfully navigate" COVID-19, and whose "unique experience and accomplished tenure in North Carolina … make her perfectly suited to lead CDC as it moves forward by building on the lessons learned from COVID-19 to create an organization poised to meet public health challenges of the future."

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Brenda Baletti, Ph.D.
Brenda Baletti Ph.D. is a reporter for The Defender. She wrote and taught about capitalism and politics for 10 years in the writing program at Duke University. She holds a Ph.D. in human geography from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's from the University of Texas at Austin.

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Duties 17 hours ago
I HAVE stopped listening to "misinformation" and "politicized science". That's why I stopped listening to the CDC, FDA, WHO, NIH, AMA, White House, Google, YouTube, et al. Everything they told us about Covid and the jab were lies. Everything. And not just mistakes. Intentional.
25 0 Reply • Share ›

> **THOB** → Duties 15 hours ago
> So true. Absolutely criminal. And not only in America. We have had good, brave people in Australia demonized, misrepresented, vilified and silenced only to find out how much truth they spoke. And it was always the truth compared to the fake 'science' spread by those on the 'gravy train' and in places of áuthority' like the WHO, CDC, NIH, WEC, Gates, Fauci, Biden, Walensky and many others.
> 5 0 Reply • Share ›

> **Wendy** → Duties 8 hours ago
> Indeed!
> 0 0 Reply • Share ›

jprexena 18 hours ago
She's a hypocrite psychopath witch. When in fact, she "politicized science", followed by denial.
Having her injected with the real Covid death jabs and the noose is a more fitting punishment for crimes against humanity!
No doubt these evil globalists and their minions will push another pandemic again. Followed by those order followers and the sheeple who would obey orders no matter how evil they are. Talk about cognitive dissonance, ignorance, and mass psychosis.
As the Covid revealed who would obey tyranny and those who don't. It's not just good vs evil, but the moralists vs the conformists, and the wise vs the fools.
https://operationdisclosure...
25 0 Reply • Share ›

Karen 16 hours ago
In my opinion there should be no leniency shown toward Walensky for the lies she told. She and the others involved should be completely shunned from our society. Why aren't they being arrested? This is the psych-job; they admit no wrong-doing and they plow forward spreading fear at every step, and they're all following the same plan.

Forever thanks to the Defender for continuing to publish truth!
17 0 Reply • Share ›

> **BChristine** → Karen 15 hours ago edited
> *"Forever thanks to the Defender for continuing to publish truth!"* AMEN.
> Also to RFK Jr for continuing to power through all these podcasts and town halls - I love to hear him **speak truth** out where so many can hear!
> 8 0 Reply • Share ›

> **Regina Lively** → Karen 15 hours ago
> Terrific comment, Karen!
> 1 0 Reply • Share ›

Jacek R 17 hours ago
Walensky warns public to be aware of misinformation? What a phony. If we had a truthful media, the public would have been warned of Walensky.
16 0 Reply • Share ›

Lavern Anjanette 16 hours ago
What a whack-ass human being....
7 0 Reply • Share ›

Bill Huracan 17 hours ago
Why does it look like she is in pain when she talks?
7 0 Reply • Share ›

> **BChristine** → Bill Huracan 15 hours ago
> Maybe she's actually feeling some physical pain from all the lies and mis/dis-information she's been privy to the past couple years.
> 3 0 Reply • Share ›
>
> > **Beatrice** → BChristine 2 hours ago
> > Not yet but one day as her mortality confronts her, she will.
> > 0 0 Reply • Share ›
>
> > **Wendy** → BChristine 8 hours ago
> > Precisely.
> > 0 0 Reply • Share ›

> **Victor Chiappetta** → Bill Huracan 15 hours ago
> Oh she looked like she won 50 powerballs when she announced "approval" for the toddlers. I've never seen such a look of joy. What a demon. I just can't figure if she's a cretin or pure evil.
> 3 0 Reply • Share ›

> **Karen** → Bill Huracan 16 hours ago
> She thinks it's a look of kindness and sympathy.
> 2 0 Reply • Share ›

kris 14 hours ago
Bunch of tyrants at the helm.. narcissistic megalomaniacs.
6 0 Reply • Share ›

Rob DF 17 hours ago
"Dr. Rochelle Walensky warned the American public to be on guard against "misinformation" and the "politicization of science." First and only thing she's ever said that's true, but then again this is her REAL area of expertise!
6 0 Reply • Share ›

Dr. Kenneth Stoller 13 hours ago
what a BS artist!
5 0 Reply • Share ›

bjo59 16 hours ago
So many fools and idiots in both elected and unelected oversight positions in the US government. This woman is in way over her head. I wonder how it feels to get on board with such a dystopian agenda and then have to keep doubling down for the rest of one's life.
5 0 Reply • Share ›

> **Beatrice** → bjo59 2 hours ago
> Exhausting and as she nears the end of her life, she will become a nasty bitter miserable woman who fears that G-d may actually exist and is waiting to confront her at the pearly gates.
> 0 0 Reply • Share ›

Cozmik 15 hours ago
We are aware of it that's why the intelligent don't listen to any of you - you are the problem, not the solution.
4 0 Reply • Share ›

Regina Lively 15 hours ago
One of the biggest disinformation & misinformation spreaders is telling us to beware of the very ideas she's perpetrating!
What a farce!
As one of the characters in the absurdist play "Waiting for Godot" said, "Why this farce day after day."!!
4 0 Reply • Share ›

Laura Pieters 15 hours ago
She is a two-faced liar.
4 0 Reply • Share ›

David 12 hours ago
[The CDC has a plan to regain public trust in the future— by working directly with media organizations to discuss how to BEST SHAPE PUBLIC OPINION prior to releasing "scientific information" to the public.]
Bwahahahaha! This should tell everyone all they need to know to not trust a word they say! And why the hell is their no outcry that they put mRNA jabs on the child schedule!?!?
There evil knows no bounds! Every one of these people have addresses! 😉Why aren't they being broadcast publicly on every social site?!? There should be no place to hide. No protection to great to stop us. These people MUST PAY! JUSTICE MUST BE SERVED!
3 0 Reply • Share ›

Gary Brown 17 hours ago
Says the only unscientific corporate and Bill Gates fraudster.

Mar 8, 2023 Why the Body Attacks Itself after COVID-19 Vaccination By Peter A. McCullough, MD, MPH

Autoimmunity is a Direct Consequence of Poorly Conceived Genetic Vaccines

https://petermcculloughmd.s...
3 0 Reply • Share ›

PDouglas 15 hours ago
LOL. "Prebunking." I.e., coordinating the propaganda.
2 0 Reply • Share ›

Wendy 8 hours ago
Nobody listens to this incompetent has-been who no longer works for Americans, if she ever did. Stop giving her air time!
1 0 Reply • Share ›

Dean Jackson 9 hours ago
For those who paid attention in high school biology, there are no vaccines for any cold virus to date, COVID-19 being a coronavirus cold virus.* If there had been a breakthrough in the sixty-year quest to produce a cold vaccine, it would have received fanfare in the general and medical media, garnering awards, including, at least, a Nobel Prize in medical science. This, too, includes the FDA's approval in May for an RSV vaccine, RSV being a cold virus along with Parainfluenza, Adenovirus, and Rhinovirus.

Conclusion: Education is a waste, because people are jumping off cliffs when told to.
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* https://www.webmd.com/cold-...
1 0 Reply • Share ›

ramrodd 11 hours ago
all trust is gone... friggin scoundrels.....
1 0 Reply • Share ›

Joanne 13 hours ago
Do as I say, not as I do.
1 0 Reply • Share ›

Beatrice an hour ago
Walensky warns us???????

Excerpted from East of Eden by John Steinbeck:

"Then there was a man, smart as Satan, who, lacking some perception of human dignity and knowing all too well every aspect of human weakness and wickedness, used his special knowledge to warp men, to buy men, to bribe and threaten and seduce until he found himself in a position of great power. He clothed his motives in the names of virtue, and I have wondered whether he ever knew that no gift will ever buy back a man's love when you have removed his self-love. A bribed man can only hate his briber. When this man died the nation rang with praise...

In uncertainty I am certain that underneath their topmost layers of frailty, men want to be good and want to be loved. Indeed, most of their vices are attempted short cuts to love. When a man comes to die, no matter what his talents and influence and genius, if he dies unloved his life must be a failure to him and his dying a cold horror....we should remember our dying and try so to live that our death brings no pleasure to the world.
0 0 Reply • Share ›

Iset : Navigium Isidis 8 hours ago edited
If you give a house underground, comfort, foods and guards, she will tell the whole truth - most feds are scared to get killed by "Stalin" in the new communist party that colluded with the old nazis
0 0 Reply • Share ›

Marebobowl 9 hours ago
When trump is elected the very first thing he should do is put wzlrpdndky in jail for crimes against humanity and fire Mandy cohen.
0 0 Reply • Share ›

> **Beatrice** → Marebobowl 2 hours ago
> But Trump wouldn't do that. He's all talk but hasn't found a way to maneuver around the gatekeepers. I think when push comes to shove, he would bow down. Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe after the constant witch hunts he's angry enough to actually do something.
> 0 0 Reply • Share ›

Bo Bindi 11 hours ago
Sounds like prebunking is just another word for censorship. Typical Rachelle. I won't believe you or change my opinion about you. In fact, it's probably worse.
0 0 Reply • Share ›

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